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TYPES OF ADVISORIES

Bulletin

Describes current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism.

Elevated Alert

Warns of a credible terrorism threat against the United States.

Imminent Alert

Warns of a credible, specific and impending terrorism threat against the United States.

**Office of Protective
Services**

September 2018 DHS Bulletin

NASA CI/CT MONTHLY NEWS UPDATE – April 2019

This monthly newsletter is published to inform NASA personnel of significant issues related to counterintelligence, counterterrorism, and counterintelligence cyber matters. To learn more about CI/CT awareness, or to schedule a CI/CT presentation, please contact the CI point of contact located on the last page.

Significant Counterterrorism (CT) Issues:

ISIS LOSES ITS TERRITORY BUT ITS SHADOWY LEADER IS STILL AT LARGE



The Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) has lost all the territory it once controlled in Iraq and Syria, but its shadowy leader and self-proclaimed "caliph" is still at large.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/isis-loses-all-territory-but-its-shadowy-leader-abu-bakr-al-baghdadi-still-at-large/>

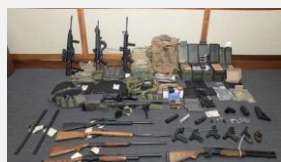
CALIPHATE FALLS BUT ITS 'CROCODILE' CELLS PLOT TO MAUL THE WEST

Isis files recovered in Syria reveal plans for the jihadists to arm and fund insurgents in Europe who would lurk beneath the radar before launching kidnappings and suicide attacks.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/edition/news/caliphate-falls-but-its-crocodile-cells-plot-to-maul-the-west-hlphg6rgq>



MORE DOMESTIC TERROR SUSPECTS ARRESTED THAN THOSE INSPIRED BY FOREIGN MILITANT GROUPS



Most people arrested as the result of FBI terrorism investigations are charged with non-terrorism offenses, and more domestic terrorism suspects were arrested last year than those allegedly inspired by international terrorist groups.

<https://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-terrorism-investigations-20190309-story.html>

Significant Counterintelligence Issues:

THE CHINESE DRAGON IS A HYDRA

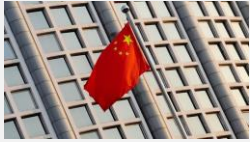
The FBI Director told the Senate Intelligence Committee that the lines between the Chinese government and "ostensibly private companies" have been "blurred if not totally erased." The briefing outlined the scope and pervasiveness of a new kind of threat – the full-spectrum fusion of state and corporate resources.

https://www.realcleardefense.com/articles/2019/03/14/the_chinese_dragon_is_a_hydra_114261.html





EX-U.S. INTEL OFFICER PLEADS GUILTY TO ATTEMPTED ESPIONAGE



A former U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency officer pleaded guilty to attempted espionage for China recently. The officer, Ron Rockwell Hansen, is accused of trying to transmit classified U.S. national defense information to China and receiving “hundreds of thousands of dollars” while illegally acting as an agent for the Chinese government.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-justice-china-espionage/ex-us-intelligence-officer-pleads-guilty-to-attempted-espionage-for-china-idUSKCN1QW2TW>

HOW THE CINCINNATI FBI BROKE THE CHINESE SPY CASE AT GE AVIATION

He was an obvious target for Chinese spies. The GE Aviation engineer was deeply involved in the design and analysis of new commercial jet engines, a technology at the top of the shopping lists of Chinese intelligence operatives. It took the spies only a few months to get him to accept their offer: A \$3,500 fee paid in U.S. currency, and free travel, lodging and meals for a one-hour presentation in China.



<https://www.wcpo.com/news/local-news/i-team/i-team-how-the-cincinnati-fbi-cracked-the-chinese-spy-case-at-ge-aviation>

Analyst Notes – Items to Watch:

With the ISIS Caliphate gone, ISIS appeared to be defeated. However, ISIS has “gone to ground” and its followers continue their violent struggle. It appears that the Jihadist movement has morphed and is gaining strength across other regions. Al-Qaeda and its affiliate groups also continue to strengthen, pressing into the void left by the ISIS battlefield defeat. The terrorist threat in the United States is not just from radical Islamic fundamentalists, but also from extreme political radicals inside the United States. The Chinese government “full court press” against the United States continues, with a multi-prong effort to pursue their massive technology collection efforts. Theft and economic espionage from China’s vast intelligence apparatus continues to affect every facet of U.S. industry; including NASA. The NASA CI/CT division continues to monitor these threats and any others that have the potential to harm NASA or its equities.

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